

Child and Family Services

Update

June 2005



Office of Child and Family Services Staff

The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) Office of Child and Family Services is recruiting for the position of a Child and Adolescent Program Specialist. This staff member will report to Janet Lung and will work with CSBs, promote the system of care model, support the Juvenile Justice and Mental Health project sites and other important duties. The position closes June 3, 2005. The salary range is \$35,695 - \$56,905. The Office of Child and Family Services would like to have a member of the Child and Family Task Force serve on the interview panel. Interested persons should call Janet Lung at (804) 371-2137. The salary range for this position is \$35,695 to \$56,905.

DMHMRSAS Submits Mental Health Transformation Grant to SAMHSA

DMHMRSAS has submitted a Mental Health Transformation State Incentive Grant to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The grant was due June 1 and DMHMRSAS is optimistic about the opportunities that would be available to Virginia if this grant is funded.

DMHMRSAS Publishes the Report, "Parent Perceptions at Community Services Boards - 2004"

The report on DMHMRSAS annual survey of parent satisfaction with services has been published and four copies have been mailed to each CSB Executive Director. The report entitled, "Parent

Perceptions of Services at Community Services Boards" describes the results of the annual administration of the Youth Satisfaction Survey – Family Version at CSBs. Surveys are mailed to a sample of parents of youth who received services at CSBs. You can also download the report at our website: www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov. Click on Child and Family Services, click on Reports, then click on Parent Satisfaction Survey FY 2004. The report includes statewide survey results, as well as individual CSB results. Funding to support the survey is from the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.

Parent and Family Involvement

OCFS has participated in the development of a statewide parent coalition. To support this growing effort, DMHMRSAS has provided \$15,000 in one-time Community Mental Health Services Block Grant funds as "seed money" for the new coalition. OCFS also has a contract with PACCT to identify and train family members of children with mental health disorders and related disorders or who are at-risk of developing mental health disorders to serve as parent representatives on state and local planning meetings. These family members shall have children under the age of 18 at the time of training. Additionally, the contract provides for support through mini-grants (up to \$500 maximum) and technical assistance to family support groups and networks, and linkages for families of children with mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. PACCT has been working with the Federation of Families and sponsored a conference for families on May 19th in Fredericksburg with collaboration and input from the Federation of Families. The

conference focused on three tracks.

- Track 1 – Family
- Track 2 – Family Representatives
- Track 3 – Family Resources

Child and Family Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee

The Child and Family Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee has been meeting to review and discuss the recommendations for the report due to the Commissioner and the General Assembly June 30, 2005. The committee is reviewing a number of recommendations including those related to funding, capacity building, Medicaid coverage for substance abuse services and additional funding for expansion of the CSB/Detention Center projects. Since many of the recommendations in the 329-G report and the Child and Adolescent special Populations Work Group report mirror each other, the combined workgroup has been working to integrate the recommendations of the special populations work group into the 2005 report. Additionally, the committee reviewed the 2004 recommendations and work plan as outlined in the previous year's report. The next meeting of the committee will be held on June 9th to review the final draft report.

Child and Family Advisory Committee

At the most recent meeting of the Child and Family Advisory Committee held May 17th; the members heard an update from the Office of Child and Family Services about the Department's FY 06 funding initiatives including funding for non-mandated SED children, \$2.25 million for early intervention services, and MR waiver start-up funds. The committee received information about a grant that the Department submitted for children and adults with co-occurring disorders to develop assessment and treatment tools and information about a proposal to expand family support for ensuring families' involvement in the Office's services system.

There was a presentation by Kim McGaughey from the Office of Comprehensive Services about CSA.

Funding, the CSA structure, challenges and barriers to accessing needed services was discussed and committee members asked a number of questions about CSA. For the August meeting, an orientation is planned for the committee.

Relinquishment of Custody

The Relinquishment of Custody workgroup has continued to meet in 2005, with the last meeting being on September 1, 2005. Jan McCarthy from the National Technical Assistance for Children's Mental Health Services gave a powerful presentation on what is happening on the national level to address custody relinquishment. Using much of the information she share, the workgroup is developing recommendations to be submitted to the State Executive Council and the General Assembly around legislative needs, policy and code revisions and state and federal initiatives (Medicaid Waiver and EPSDT) that can be implemented to provide needed behavioral health services to children and their families. A final report with recommendations will be submitted to SEC on or before November 1, 2005.

Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT)

OCFS continues to provide input and direction to DMAS as they develop a process and protocol for providers to apply for reimbursement for substance abuse treatment services for Medicaid eligible youth under EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment. Brian Campbell, EPSDT Coordinator in DMAS's Maternal and Child Health Unit recently distributed a draft to C & A providers and would like your input. You can reach him at (804) 786-0342 or via email at brian.campbell@dmass.virginia.gov.

Systems of Care Development

Following the System of Care Conference in Roanoke in March, there have been several activities to support this initiative and to promote the development of systems of care in Virginia communities.

Additional Funding: Each CSB that participated the System of Care Conference has received \$2000 to support local activities to promote the system of care model.

Additional Training: The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health at Georgetown University co-sponsored an exciting training initiative to build a network of key leaders who are trained in a detailed understanding of what it takes to build effective systems of care. *Based on Building Systems of Care: A Primer*, by Sheila Pires, the training covered the structure and elements of effective systems of care and the strategic processes essential to engaging partners in systems building. The training was held April 21& 22 in Washington, D.C. The following persons participated from Virginia:

- Carolyn Arthur, Henrico CSB
- Alicia Bush, Prince William CSB
- Pam Fisher, Office of Comprehensive Services
- Janet Lung, DMHMRSAS
- Genevieve Whittemore, Central Virginia CSB

Training Manual - Building Systems of Care: A Primer – additional copies of this technical assistance manual that was used at the System of Care Conference are being made available through the DMHMRSAS Office of Child and Family Services. Please contact Keisha White at (804) 786-3710 or Keisha.White@co.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov to receive additional copies.

Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction of Addiction Studies

The Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies is a week- long institute devoted to training providers regarding substance abuse treatment and prevention services. The Institute will be held at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg July 18-22, 2005. The Institute will focus on 3 themes for this year:

- The Family
- Co-occurring Disorders

- **Evidence Based Practices**

The Institute includes training sessions that deal with adolescent substance abuse, children affected by substance abuse as well as substance exposed infants.

Dr. Ira Chasnoff will present a day-long workshop "Integrating Systems of Care for Substance Using Pregnant and Parenting Women." on Wednesday July 20. This workshop includes an afternoon panel with:

- Shirley Ricks (DMHMRSAS)
- Vickie Johnson Scott (DSS)
- Judge O'Donnell (Richmond Family Court)
- Joan Corder Mabe (DOH)
- Dr. Colleen Craft, Pediatrician

. There will be a networking reception for workshop attendees immediately following the workshop. Mark your calendars for this great training opportunity and plan to attend the Summer Institute. Brochures are in your packet.

Safe Families in Recovery Project

DMHMRSAS, DSS and OES received a technical assistance grant from the National Center for Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) July 2004 – December 2005. Concerned regarding the impact of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) on substance affected families, the 3 entities requested assistance developing an MOU and interagency strategic plan to improve outcomes for families affected by substance abuse involved in the child welfare system and the dependency courts. Identifying and addressing the treatment needs of substance exposed infants and their families was also a concern for these agencies. The MOU and interagency plan were completed in July 2004. The SFRP will be developing a tool kit for communities to support collaboration and coordination efforts between child welfare and substance abuse services.

The SFRP has also elected to focus on the identification and coordination of services for substance exposed infants in the coming months. Virginia plans to send an interagency team to the National Abandoned Infant Resource Center's

annual conference on *Substance Exposed Newborns: Weaving Together Effective Policy & Practice* (October 6-7, 2005)

Budget Information

State funding was approved to address the deficit in early intervention. The state budget includes \$2.25 in FY 05 and \$2.25 in FY 06 for funding for early intervention. For FY 06, the budget includes \$1million to support two demonstration projects to support systems of care using evidenced-based service models for children and adolescents with behavioral health needs. The FY 06 budget also includes \$500,000 to increase existing funding to provide services to children who are non-CSA mandated. A portion of this new funding will make

possible the continuation of the five Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) projects. Department of Criminal Justice Services funding decreases by 50% on January 1, 2006. In addition, two new juvenile justice and mental health projects will be funded. Guidance on developing proposals was recently mailed to CSBs.